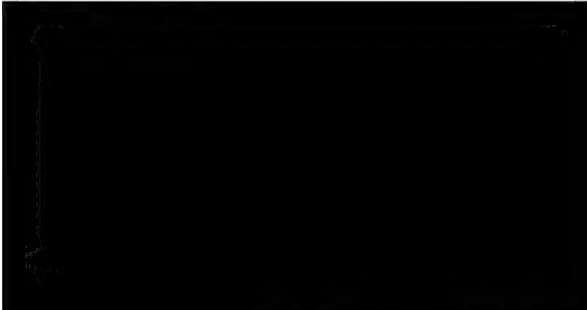


Powers

STATOTHR



With regard to the question set forth in your letter of 16 March 1962 as to the reason for Senator Richard B. Russell's conduct of an investigation and interrogation of Francis Gary Powers, I am enclosing herewith a copy of Senator Russell's statement of 6 March 1962, together with a copy of the "Statement Concerning Francis Gary Powers" issued by this Agency. I am also enclosing, for your information, a copy of the report of the hearing before the Committee on Armed Services, United States Senate, dated 6 March 1962.

Upon announcement of Mr. Allen W. Dulles' retirement from the position of Director of Central Intelligence, which was effective on 29 November 1961, President Kennedy nominated Mr. John A. McCone to that position. After the release of Mr. Powers, Mr. McCone ordered a complete review and investigation of Mr. Powers' conduct by a Board of Inquiry established for this purpose. Hearings were then held by the Senate Committee on Armed Services, at which Mr. Powers appeared. The hearings by the Senate Committee on Armed Services were held under the authority of the Senate of the United States.

Sincerely,

25X1A



Legislative Counsel

Enclosures

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1 - OGC/Powers

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